

CHRISTOPHER J. BOLAN, Ph.D.

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

Professor and practitioner of international relations, national security affairs, U.S. foreign policy, strategic intelligence, and Middle Eastern history and politics. Professor of National Security Studies at The U.S. Army War College responsible for teaching graduate-level courses on contemporary national security issues and the Middle East in both online and resident programs. Adjunct Faculty at Gettysburg College teaching courses on international relations and U.S. foreign policy. Six years as senior foreign policy advisor and analyst on Middle Eastern and South Asian affairs for Vice Presidents Gore and Cheney. Participated in senior interagency deliberations at the level of Assistant Secretary regularly attending Principals and Deputies Committee meetings of the National Security Council and preparing hundreds of policy briefings/papers for senior officials at the White House, Pentagon, Congress, and U.S. embassies overseas. Thirty years in the U.S. Army in various command, staff, and instructor positions.

EDUCATION:

- Ph.D. in International Relations, Georgetown University, 2009
- U.S. Army Senior Service College Fellowship, Georgetown University, 2004
- U.S. State Department Advanced Arabic Course, Tunisia, 1991
- Master of Arts in Arab Studies (with distinction), Georgetown University, 1990
- Bachelor of Science (distinguished graduate, Phi Kappa Phi), United States Military Academy, 1980

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

➤ Adjunct Professor, Gettysburg College (2010-Present)

- Instructs undergraduate courses on international relations theory and American foreign policy in the Middle East.

➤ Professor of National Security Studies at the U.S. Army War College (2005-Present)

- Develops curriculum and conducts instruction for graduate-level courses on “National Security Policy and Strategy” for senior U.S. military officers and their civilian and foreign counterparts in both resident and online programs.
- Curriculum covers diverse substantive areas including: international relations theories, the role of state and non-state actors, foreign policy decision-making theory, the U.S. interagency system, historical and contemporary case studies in US foreign policymaking, and the process of strategy formulation.
- Teaches both resident and online graduate-level course electives on the Middle East.
- Lectures as a subject matter expert on U.S. interagency operations and American foreign policy to various graduate-level seminars and courses.

➤ Senior Middle East and South Asia Policy Advisor for Vice Presidents Gore and Cheney (1997-2003)

- Principal advisor and analyst on national security, diplomatic, military, and economic matters for the Middle East and South Asia; coordinated Vice Presidential engagements (i.e., meetings, phone calls, and letters) with regional leaders; represented the Office of the Vice President in the interagency process at the Assistant Secretary level.

- Prepared hundreds of background and issue papers for the Vice President and his National Security Advisor analyzing regional events and supporting the formulation of US national security policies and programs.
- Coordinated substantive inputs from federal agencies (e.g., NSC, State, Defense, Commerce, Treasury, USTR) for interagency deliberations on numerous US foreign policies and issues.
- Executive Secretary for the U.S.-Egypt Partnership for Economic Development; analyzed Egypt's economic policies and programs; served as focal point for involvement of senior US and Egyptian business leaders; concluded Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA) with Egypt; advanced negotiations involving WTO accession for Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

➤ **Intelligence Liaison Officer to the Directorate of Strategic Plans & Policy (J5), Joint Chiefs of Staff, Pentagon (1996-1997)**

- Coordinated daily intelligence support to policy planning efforts at the highest levels of the Pentagon.

➤ **Intelligence Team Chief & Senior Briefer for Balkans Task Force, Directorate of Intelligence (J2), Joint Chiefs of Staff, Pentagon (1994-1996)**

- Led a team of 25 military and civilian analysts representing all key national intelligence agencies during a critical period in the Balkans crisis covering numerous Serb military offensives in Bosnia, the US-led Dayton negotiations, the introduction of international peacekeeping forces (SFOR) into Bosnia, and international efforts to indict Bosnian Serb leader Karadzic.
- Produced daily written and oral intelligence briefings to senior military and civilian leaders in the Pentagon including the Secretary of Defense, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and other senior level staff; coordinated scores of formal intelligence community reports and assessments.
- Coordinated intelligence collection and production priorities with Central Intelligence Agency, Defense Intelligence Agency, and National Security Agency as well as theater-level military commands.

➤ **Instructor, U.S. Army Intelligence Center and School (1985-1986)**

- Taught graduate level classes on US intelligence organization and analysis; US and USSR nuclear strategies; Soviet use of surrogates; intelligence case studies of the 1967 and 1973 Arab-Israeli wars; and background studies and threat assessments of Central America and the Middle East.

➤ **Academic Honors and Awards**

- Inducted into the Graduates of Distinction Hall of Fame, Canandaigua Senior Academy, 2011
- General Colin Powell Chair of Military and Strategic Studies, U.S. Army War College, 2010-2013
- Tenure, U.S. Army War College, 2006
- Graduated with Distinction, Georgetown University, Master of Arab Studies Program, 1990
- Honors Graduate, United States Military Academy, 1980

➤ **Personal Civilian & Military Awards**

- Achievement Medal for Civilian Service
- Defense Distinguished Service Medal
- Defense Superior Service Medal (2nd award)
- Legion of Merit
- Defense Meritorious Service Medal (2nd award)
- Meritorious Service Medal
- Army Commendation Medal (3rd award)
- Army Achievement Medal (2nd award)

➤ Publications

- [“The Permanent Crisis: Iran’s Nuclear Trajectory,”](#) Book Review, *Parameters* 44, Iss. 4 (Winter 2014-15): 154-155.
- [“On Priming Strategic Communications: Countering ISIS,”](#) *Parameters* 44, Iss. 4 (Winter 2014-15): 141-142
- [“ISIL Is Contained and That Should Be Good Enough,”](#) warontherocks.com, 22 September 2014
- [“The NDP Review is Worse Than You Thought,”](#) warontherocks.com, 29 August 2014
- [“U.S. State and DoD Clash On Approach to Syria,”](#) SST, 8 April 2014.
- [“Is Diplomacy, Not War, Finally on the March in the Middle East?”](#) FPIF, 28 Oct 2013.
- [“Don’t Move the Strategic Goal Posts for U.S. Policy on Iran,”](#) SST Blog, 7 Oct 2013
- [“Syria, the U.S. Constitution, and the Use of Force,”](#) Foreign Policy in Focus, 30 Sep 2013
- [“The Iranian Nuclear Debate: More Myths Than Facts,”](#) *Parameters* 43, No. 2 (Summer 2013)
- [“The Easy Road to War with Iran,”](#) SST Blog, 22 September 2012
- [“The Futility of Seeking “Strategic Clarity” on Iran,”](#) Foreign Policy in Focus, 6 Sep 2012
- [“Perspective on the Threat of Terrorism,”](#) SST Blog, 11 June 2012
- [“Missing a Strategic Opportunity on Iran,”](#) SST Blog, 30 May 2012
- [“Opposing Government-sponsored Torture,”](#) SST Blog, 10 April 2012
- [“A Disappointing Assessment of U.S. Investment in Iraq,”](#) Sic Semper Tyrannis Blog, 6 April 2012.
- [“Waltzing Toward War with Iran,”](#) Sic Semper Tyrannis Blog, 16 March 2012.
- [“Flawed Arguments on Iran,”](#) *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, 8 March 2012.
- “Quicksand: A Book Review,” *Parameters*, Vol. 41, No. 3 (Autumn 2011): 126-128.
- “Five Reasons to Avoid Talk of US Military Attacks on Iran”, *The Washington Post*, 22 November 2010.

➤ Academic & Professional Conferences

- Presenter, “Recalibrating American Interests in the Middle East,” Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, April 2015.
- Moderator, Strategic Studies Institute, [“Balancing the Joint Force to Meet Future Security Challenges”](#), U.S. Army War College, Carlisle, PA, April 2014
- Presenter, U.S. Army War College Roundtable Discussion of Syria, September 2012

➤ Presentations

- [“Rise of ISIS and Challenges to U.S. Policy,”](#) Great Decisions Lecture, Carlisle, PA, January 2016
- “Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant – ISIL”, Brigham Young University, December 2015
- “Changing American Interests in the Middle East,” Brigham Young University, December 2015
- “The Vice President in National Security Affairs,” U.S. Army War College, November 2015
- “Upheavals in the Middle East,” U.S. Army War College, 22 June 2015
- “Protect and Defend: U.S. Foreign Policy in the 21st Century,” Gettysburg College, February 2015
- “U.S. Policy on Syria,” Carlisle Rotary Club, September 2014
- [“Israel and the U.S.”](#), Great Decisions Briefing, March 2014
- “US-Iran: The Nuclear Issue”, Penn State Harrisburg, Model United Nations, February 2014
- “U.S. Policy on Iran,” Carlisle Rotary Club, October 2013
- [“U.S. Policy Options for Iran”](#), Great Decisions Lecture, March 2013
- [“The Middle East and U.S. Foreign Policy in Transition”](#), June 2012
- “Israel-Palestine: A Tale of Competing Nationalisms”, U.S. Army War College, 2012
- “U.S. Strategy Formulation”, Strategic Leadership Seminar, U.S. Army War College, 2011
- “Historical Perspectives on the Arab-Israeli Conflict”, U.S. Army War College, 2011
- “Revolution in the Middle East”, Harrisburg Foreign Policy Association, 2011

- “The Arab Spring”, National Security Program, U.S. Army War College, 2011
- “The Interagency and National Security”, U.S. Army War College, 2011
- “The Office of the Vice President in National Security Affairs”, U.S. Army War College, 2011
- “U.S. Foreign Policy in the Persian Gulf”, Great Decisions, Carlisle, 2011